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AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

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Please add or amend the claims to read as follows, and cancel without prejudice or disclaimer claims indicated as cancelled.

1. (Currently Amended) A method comprising:
transmitting a wireless probe request signal from a wireless communication station to a wireless access point not associated with the wireless communication station indicating that the wireless communication station supports a certain configuration protocol;
receiving a wireless probe response signal from the wireless access point including an indication that the wireless access point supports the certain configuration protocol, wherein the wireless probe response signal includes at least a first string indicating a unique identifier of the wireless access point; and
determining at the wireless communication station whether [[a]] the wireless communication station is authorized to configure [[a]] the wireless access point not associated therewith based on a comparison of [[a]] the first string transmitted by said wireless access point and indicating a unique identifier of said wireless access point to a second string entered in response to a user query at the wireless communication station.
2. (Cancelled)
3. (Cancelled)
4. (Currently Amended) The method of claim [[3]] 1, comprising performing an ownership-setting process between said the wireless communication station and said the wireless access point if said the first string matches said the second string.

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5. (Original) The method of claim 4, comprising establishing an encryption key for secure communications between said wireless access point and said wireless communication station.
6. (Original) The method of claim 5, comprising transmitting a value of a configuration parameter encrypted using said encryption key.
7. (Original) The method of claim 6, comprising decrypting by said wireless access point said encrypted transmission.
8. (Original) The method of claim 7, comprising setting a value of a parameter of said wireless access point based on the decrypted transmission.
9. (Original) The method of claim 8, wherein setting a value of a parameter comprises setting a value of at least one of a Service Set Identifier (SSID) and a Wi-Fi Protected Access – Pre-Shared Key (WPA-PSK).
10. (Currently Amended) An apparatus comprising:
 - a transmitter to transmit a wireless probe request signal from a wireless communication station to a wireless access point not associated the wireless communication station indicating that the wireless communication station supports a certain configuration protocol;
 - a receiver to receive a wireless probe response signal from the wireless access point including an indication that the wireless access point supports the certain configuration protocol, wherein the wireless probe response signal includes at least a first string indicating a unique identifier of the wireless access point; and
 - a processor to determine at the wireless communication station whether [[a]] the wireless communication station is authorized to configure [[a]] the wireless access point ~~not associated therewith~~ based on a comparison of [[a]] the first string transmitted by said ~~wireless access point and indicating a unique identifier of said~~

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~~wireless-access-point~~ to a second string entered in response to a user query at the wireless communication station.

11. (Cancelled)

12. (Cancelled)

13. (Currently Amended) The apparatus of claim [12] 10, wherein said processor is able to perform an ownership-setting process between said the wireless communication station and said the wireless access point if said the first string matches said the second string.

14. (Original) The apparatus of claim 13, wherein said processor is able to establish an encryption key for secure communications between said wireless access point and said wireless communication station.

15. (Original) The apparatus of claim 14, wherein said transmitter is able to transmit a value of a configuration parameter encrypted using said encryption key.

16. (Currently Amended) A wireless communication station comprising:
a dipole antenna; ~~and~~
a transmitter to transmit a wireless probe request signal from a wireless communication station to a wireless access point not associated the wireless communication station indicating that the wireless communication station supports a certain configuration protocol;
a receiver to receive a wireless probe response signal from the wireless access point including an indication that the wireless access point supports the certain configuration protocol, wherein the wireless probe response signal includes at least a first string indicating a unique identifier of the wireless access point; and
a processor to determine at the wireless communication station whether [[a]] the wireless communication station is authorized to configure [[a]] the wireless access

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~~point not associated therewith~~ based on a comparison of ~~[[a]]~~ the first string transmitted by ~~said wireless access point and indicating a unique identifier of said wireless access point~~ to a second string entered in response to a user query at the wireless communication station.

17. (Cancelled)

18. (Cancelled)

19. (Currently Amended) A wireless communication system comprising:

a wireless access point; and

a wireless communication station not associated with the wireless access point able to transmit a wireless probe request signal to the wireless access point indicating that the wireless communication station supports a certain configuration protocol, to receive a wireless probe response signal from the wireless access point including an indication that the wireless access point supports the certain configuration protocol, wherein the wireless probe response signal includes at least a first string indicating a unique identifier of the wireless access point, and to determine at the wireless communication station whether said the wireless communication station is authorized to configure said the wireless access point ~~not associated therewith~~ based on a comparison of ~~[[a]]~~ the first string ~~transmitted by said wireless access point and indicating a unique identifier of said wireless access point~~ to a second string entered in response to a user query at the wireless communication station.

20. (Cancelled)

21. (Cancelled)

22. (Currently Amended) The wireless communication system of claim ~~21~~ 19, wherein said the wireless communication station is able to perform an ownership-setting

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process between said the wireless communication station and said the wireless access point if said the first string matches said the second string.

23. (Original) The wireless communication system of claim 22, wherein said wireless communication station is able to establish an encryption key for secure communications between said wireless access point and said wireless communication station.
24. (Original) The wireless communication system of claim 23, wherein said wireless communication station is able to transmit a value of a configuration parameter encrypted using said encryption key.
25. (Original) The wireless communication system of claim 24, wherein said wireless access point is able to decrypt said encrypted transmission.
26. (Original) The wireless communication system of claim 25, wherein said wireless access point is able to set a value of a parameter of said wireless access point based on the decrypted transmission.
27. (Original) The wireless communication system of claim 26, wherein said value comprises a value of at least one of a Service Set Identifier (SSID) and a Wi-Fi Protected Access – Pre-Shared Key (WPA-PSK).
28. (Currently Amended) A machine-readable medium having stored thereon a set of instructions that, if executed by a machine, cause the machine to perform a method comprising:
transmitting a wireless probe request signal from a wireless communication station to a wireless access point not associated the wireless communication station indicating that the wireless communication station supports a certain configuration protocol;

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receiving a wireless probe response signal from the wireless access point including an indication that the wireless access point supports the certain configuration protocol, wherein the wireless probe response signal includes at least a first string indicating a unique identifier of said wireless access point; and
determining at the wireless communication station whether ~~[[a]]~~ the wireless communication station is authorized to configure ~~[[a]]~~ the wireless access point ~~not associated therewith~~ based on a comparison of ~~[[a]]~~ the first string ~~transmitted by said wireless access point and indicating a unique identifier of said wireless access point to a second string entered in response to a user query at the wireless communication station.~~

29. (Cancelled)

30. (Cancelled)